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Mineral Industry Surveys

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ALUMINUM IN JUNE 2004

Domestic primary aluminum production in June was 204,312 metric tons (t), according to data reported to the U.S. Geological Survey. The average daily production rate was 6,810 t, 3% lower than that of the previous month and 8% below the rate for June 2003. Primary metal production for the first 6 months of this year decreased 8% compared with that for the same period in 2003. The monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot increased from 80.38 cents per pound in May 2004 to 82.56 cents per pound in June, according to Platts Metals Week. The American Metal Market buying price range for aluminum used beverage cans (UBCs) trended upward during the month of June. The buying price range began the month at 57–59 cents per pound. On June 2, the buying price range increased to 59–61 cents per pound. On June 15, the price range decreased slightly to 58–60 cents per pound before rebounding to 60–62 cents per pound on June 22. The price range remained at this level through the end of the month.

Aluminum will play a prominent role in the 2004 Olympic games in Athens, Greece. It was the metal of choice for the Olympic torch, as well as the altar where the Olympic flame will burn. The torch is made of a combination of wood and aluminum and was created by a Greek industrial designer to have the appearance of an olive tree leaf, a traditional tree of the Greek landscape and a symbol of the State of Athens (JOM, 2004).

Update

The monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot increased in July to 84.00 cents per pound. The American Metal Market buying price range for aluminum UBCs increased during most of the month of July. The price range began the month at 60–62 cents per pound. On July 6, the price range increased to 61–63 cents per pound followed by an increase to 62–64 cents per pound on July 9. The price range held steady until July 27, when it returned to the 60–62 cents per pound level.

Reference Cited

JOM, 2004, Aluminum medals in 2004 Olympics: JOM, v. 56, no. 8, August, p. 5-6.

TABLE 1
COMPONENTS OF ALUMINUM SUPPLY[1]

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Primary production	Secondary recovery[2]			Imports for consumption			Total new supply[3]	Total stocks, end of period[4]
		New	Old	Total	Metals and alloys, crude	Plates, sheets, bars, etc.	Total		
2003[p]	2,703	1,770	1,160	2,930	2,870	822	3,690	9,320	1,400
2003:									
June	221	139	102	240	261	66	327	789	1,480
July	226	140	97	236	233	74	307	770	1,480
August	225	153	100	253	194	67	261	739	1,470
September	217	152	98	249	215	70	284	751	1,400
October	224	154	105	259	210	72	281	765	1,380
November	215	147	99	246	233	67	301	761	1,390
December	221	139	86	226	243	64	306	753	1,400
January-June	1,374	880	580	1,460	1,540	408	1,950	4,780	1,480
2004:									
January	216	151	94 [r]	245 [r]	211	64	274	735 [r]	1,430
February	202	155	83	238	288	69	356	797 [r]	1,430 [r]
March	217	161 [r]	100 [r]	261 [r]	248	76	324	801 [r]	1,420 [r]
April	209	152 [r]	102 [r]	254 [r]	254	72	326	789 [r]	1,440 [r]
May	217	156 [r]	103 [r]	259 [r]	282	76	357	833	1,450
June	204	149	102	251	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
January-June	1,265	924	584	1,510	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

[p]Preliminary. [r]Revised. NA Not available.

[1]Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits, except "Primary production"; may not add to totals shown.

[2]Metallic recovery from purchased, tolled, or imported scrap, expanded for full coverage of industry.

[3]Primary production, secondary recovery, and imports for consumption.

[4]Inventory levels reflect total for both U.S. and Canadian producers; data from the Aluminum Association Inc.

TABLE 2
ESTIMATED FULL COVERAGE CONSUMPTION OF AND METALLIC RECOVERY FROM PURCHASED NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP[1]

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Secondary smelters		Integrated aluminum companies		Independent mill fabricators		Foundries		Other consumers		Total	
	Consumption	Metal recovery	Consumption	Metal recovery	Consumption	Metal recovery	Consumption	Metal recovery	Consumption	Metal recovery	Consumption	Metal recovery
2003[p]	1,660	1,230	859	741	897	836	131	118	6	6	3,550	2,930
2003:												
June	143	106	74	64	65	60	11	10	1	1	293	240
July	122	89	75	64	78	73	11	10	(2)	(2)	286	236
August	137	101	71	62	85	79	12	11	(2)	(2)	306	253
September	135	100	70	60	84	79	12	10	(2)	(2)	302	249
October	145	107	80	70	76	71	12	11	(2)	(2)	314	259
November	138	102	75	64	75	70	11	10	(2)	(2)	299	246
December	126	93	61	52	76	71	10	9	(2)	(2)	274	226
January-June	857	636	427	369	422	394	64	58	4	4	1,770	1,460
2004:												
January	133 [r]	99 [r]	57	51	90	84	11	10	(2)	(2)	292 [r]	245 [r]
February	133 [r]	98	50	45	90	85	11	10	1	1	285 [r]	238
March	146 [r]	108 [r]	64	57	92	86	11	10	(2)	(2)	313 [r]	261 [r]
April	141 [r]	105 [r]	65	57	90	84	9	8	(2)	(2)	304 [r]	254 [r]
May	140 [r]	103 [r]	68	60	93	87	8	7	1	1	310 [r]	259 [r]
June	134	99	62	55	95	89	8	7	1	1	301	251
January-June	827	612	366	325	550	515	58	52	3	3	1,810	1,510

[p]Preliminary. [r]Revised.
[1]Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.
[2]Less than 1/2 unit.

TABLE 3
CONSUMPTION OF AND RECOVERY FROM PURCHASED NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP IN JUNE 2004[1]

(Metric tons)

	Consumption		Calculated metallic recovery	
	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage
Secondary smelters	112,000	134,000	82,200	98,700
Integrated aluminum companies	62,200	62,200	54,700	54,700
Independent mill fabricators	79,600	95,500	74,400	89,300
Foundries	6,960	8,350	6,150	7,380
Other consumers	507	608	507	608
Total	261,000	301,000	218,000	251,000

[1]Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

TABLE 4

PURCHASED AND TOLL-TREATED ALUMINUM-BASE SCRAP AND SWEATED PIG IN JUNE 2004[1]

(Metric tons)

	June				January-June[2]	
	Stocks, opening	Net receipts[3]	Melted or consumed	Stocks, closing	Net receipts[3]	Melted or consumed
New scrap:						
Solids	19,300 r	77,000	76,200	20,100	472,000	471,000
Can stock clippings	2,440	25,400	25,400	2,440	152,000	152,000
Other clippings	3,230	7,970	7,970	3,230	46,200	47,100
Borings and turnings	4,590 r	15,400	14,200	5,810	105,000	104,000
Dross and skimmings	5,010 r	32,000	32,100	4,930	192,000	192,000
Total new scrap	34,500 r	158,000	156,000	36,500	967,000	966,000
Old scrap:						
Used casting, sheet, clippings	10,500 r	31,000	30,400	11,100	182,000	181,000
Aluminum-copper radiators	1,710	1,800	1,720	1,780	10,700	10,500
Used cans (shredded, loose, baled)	6,280 r	67,600	63,900	9,960	351,000	353,000
Fragmentized shredder (auto shredder)	3,920 r	8,360	8,520	3,760	51,100	50,600
Total old scrap	22,400	109,000	105,000	26,600	594,000	596,000
Sweated pig	74	752	745	81	4,430	4,410
Total all classes	57,000 r	267,000	261,000	63,200	1,570,000	1,570,000

rRevised.

[1]Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

[2]Includes revised data from previous month(s).

[3]Includes data on imported aluminum-base scrap.

TABLE 5

ALUMINUM ALLOYS PRODUCED AT SECONDARY SMELTERS IN THE UNITED STATES FOR 2004[1, 2]

(Metric tons)

	June				January-June[3]	
	Stocks, opening	Production	Net shipments	Stocks, closing	Production	Net shipments
Die-cast alloys:						
13% Si, 360, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	3,710 r	1,600	1,750	3,560	9,680	9,600
380 and variations	6,890 r	22,200	23,100	5,990	139,000	140,000
Sand and permanent mold:						
95/5 Al-Si, 356, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	2,890 r	4,530	4,440	2,980	25,300	25,000
No. 319 and variations	4,140 r	10,100	10,200	4,020	64,900	66,500
F-132 alloy and variations	1,280 r	2,160	2,130	1,310	14,400	14,500
Al-Zn alloys	235 r	139	144	230	838	831
Al-Si alloys (0.6% to 2.0% Cu)	39	3	3	39	19	19
Al-Cu alloys (1.5% Si, max.)	50	381	381	50	2,280	2,280
Other[4]	4,220 r	6,890	6,330	4,770	37,800	37,600
Wrought alloys:						
Extrusion billets	9,760	20,300	20,300	9,760	121,000	121,000
Total all alloys	33,200 r	68,300	68,800	32,700	415,000	417,000
Less:						
Primary aluminum consumed	XX	22,200	XX	XX	73,100	XX
Primary silicon consumed	XX	3,110	XX	XX	20,500	XX
Other alloying ingredients consumed	XX	732	XX	XX	4,400	XX
Net metallic recovery from aluminum scrap and sweated pig consumed in production of secondary aluminum ingot[5]	XX	42,200	XX	XX	317,000	XX

rRevised. XX Not applicable.

[1]Excludes integrated aluminum companies.

[2]Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

[3]Includes revised data from previous months.

[4]Includes alloys No. 12, Al-Mg, Al-Si-Cu-Ni, aluminum-base hardeners, variations of these alloys, plus other aluminum alloys.

[5]No allowance made for melt-loss of primary aluminum and alloying ingredients.

TABLE 6

U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF ALUMINUM IN MAY 2004[1]

(Metric tons)

	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
Country	May	January-May	May	January-May	May	January-May	May	January-May
Argentina	10,300	25,100	54	236	--	204	10,300	25,500
Australia	3,420	20,500	5	37	--	17	3,420	20,600
Bahrain	199	599	724	4,690	--	--	923	5,290
Belgium	--	688	859	5,360	--	--	859	6,050
Brazil	22,300	77,300	1,750	8,730	350	350	24,400	86,400
Canada	140,000	736,000	41,200	195,000	28,900	140,000	211,000	1,070,000
China	15	2,390	4,710	18,800	--	77	4,730	21,200
France	12	200	509	2,600	--	78	520	2,880
Germany	70	3,530	5,600	30,100	31	82	5,700	33,700
Hungary	--	--	282	898	--	--	282	898
Italy	24	24	199	902	--	--	223	926
Japan	147	291	795	3,730	57	137	999	4,160
Korea, Republic of	14	21	257	1,220	--	29	271	1,270
Mexico	--	1,240	2,040	8,780	7,470	39,300	9,510	49,300
Netherlands	--	204	298	963	--	132	298	1,300
Norway	23	512	38	72	--	--	62	584
Russia	75,300	302,000	2,790	13,900	735	4,660	78,800	321,000
South Africa	1,500	13,500	3,350	15,000	--	--	4,860	28,400
Spain	25	70	14	315	--	--	39	385
Sweden	--	3	301	1,160	17	97	318	1,260
Switzerland	--	--	334	1,670	--	--	334	1,670
United Arab Emirates	5,880	22,700	--	--	118	167	6,000	22,800
United Kingdom	229	465	291	1,370	349	2,530	870	4,360
Venezuela	21,300	60,600	2,370	8,950	1,110	8,410	24,800	77,900
Other	699	13,300	6,770	31,600	5,000	22,700	12,500	67,600
Total	282,000	1,280,000	75,600	356,000	44,200	219,000	401,000	1,860,000

-- Zero.

[1]Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 7

U.S. EXPORTS OF ALUMINUM IN MAY 2004[1]

(Metric tons)

Country or territory	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	May	January-May	May	January-May	May	January-May	May	January-May
Australia	1	30	212	814	(2)	4	213	849
Belgium	38	308	472	2,390	--	40	510	2,730
Brazil	57	96	1,050	6,370	--	(2)	1,110	6,470
Canada	12,000	54,700	43,600	223,000	13,100	61,000	68,700	339,000
China	6	168	2,770	13,400	20,600	114,000	23,400	128,000
Czech Republic	--	--	2	77	--	--	2	77
Dominican Republic	--	4	104	291	--	--	104	295
France	19	38	381	2,730	3	23	403	2,790
Germany	95	215	292	1,750	--	225	388	2,190
Hong Kong	6	48	864	1,740	607	7,090	1,480	8,890
India	14	109	17	105	425	1,500	456	1,710
Israel	140	543	222	1,110	--	19	362	1,670
Italy	1	21	233	890	--	--	234	911
Japan	590	2,650	564	2,780	1,880	8,330	3,030	13,800
Korea, Republic of	12	183	1,600	8,620	3,150	18,100	4,760	26,900
Malaysia	(2)	8	91	579	--	--	92	587
Mexico	12,000	52,700	11,600	56,900	3,220	15,400	26,800	125,000
Netherlands	21	100	107	313	69	113	196	526
Russia	--	(2)	2	22	--	--	2	22
Saudi Arabia	--	16	1,380	6,550	--	--	1,380	6,560
Singapore	42	128	163	636	156	267	361	1,030
Spain	12	81	84	355	--	54	96	490
Sweden	--	--	21	95	--	--	21	95
Taiwan	19	227	786	2,810	3,410	14,800	4,220	17,800
Thailand	4	37	401	1,350	56	464	462	1,850
Ukraine	--	--	--	(2)	--	--	--	(2)
United Kingdom	62	454	1,080	4,650	6	101	1,140	5,200
Venezuela	--	14	142	1,100	3	3	145	1,120
Other	28	638	1,840	8,580	2,190	6,470	4,060	15,700
Total	25,100	114,000	70,100	350,000	48,900	248,000	144,000	712,000

-- Zero.

[1]Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

[2]Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.